## FREI.P-025-US PATENT APPLICATION

Claim 10, line 1, delete "one of the claims 1-9" and insert -- claim 1--.

## Please amend claim 11 as follows:

11. (amended) [Method according to claim 10 and one of the claims 8 or 9], Method according to claim 1, where in step b), said output values  $(P_1,...,P_n)$  are combined into a combined output value  $(P_{out})$  by means of a merging function  $(f(x_1,...,x_n))$  which is truly monotonic, continuous and continuously differentiable in all said output values  $(P_1,...,P_n)$ , wherein n=2 for all subsets (11, 11', ...) of pixels, wherein step a), a longer exposure (22, 22', ...) and a shorter exposure (26, 26', ...) are performed wherein said merging function  $(f(x_1,x_2))$  has the following properties:

- (i) preference is given to the output value  $(x_1)$  obtained from the longer exposure (22, 22',...) when said output values  $(x_1, x_2)$  or a combination of said output values  $((x_1 + x_2)/2)$  lie beneath a given lower limit  $(x_{low})$ ;
- (ii) preference is given to the output value  $(x_2)$  obtained from the shorter exposure (26, 26', ...) when said output values  $(x_1, x_2)$  or a combination of said output values  $((x_1 + x_2)/2)$  lie above a given upper limit  $(x_{up})$ ;
- (iii) said merging function  $(f(x_1, x_2))$  increases truly monotonically in said output values  $(x_1, x_2)$  when said output values  $(x_1, x_2)$  lie between said lower limit  $(x_{low})$  and said upper limit  $(x_{up})$ .

Claim 13, line 1, delete "one of the claims 1-12" and insert --claim 1--.